

National Small Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Cochran deserves this recognition for his many years of hard work building a successful small business that provides mobile, combat-ready shelter systems both in the U.S. and abroad. In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Air Force, and others, Mr. Cochran and his team provide quality medical services to the many dedicated men and woman worldwide who put their lives at risk in the military. Mr. Cochran has also deployed mobile surgical units across the globe to developing countries, giving third world countries cost-effective mobile access to modern medical facilities.

From an otherwise nondescript industrial building in St. Johnsbury, Mobile Medical has touched the lives of thousands of people from across the globe. Whether the company is shipping units to the Middle East, deploying units with National Guard soldiers, or quickly delivering aid to communities devastated by natural disasters here at home, the men and women who have engineered and manufactured these mobile medical facilities have found a novel and cost-effective way to deliver state-of-the-art medical care in some of the world's most challenging environments. Just last week, I learned that Mobile Medical had already deployed mobile healthcare facilities to assist in the recovery efforts in Joplin, MO, following the catastrophic weather that left hundreds dead and thousands more injured.

Mr. Cochran and his staff have improved the lives of others both abroad and locally, as their business has created hundreds of job opportunities for Vermonters in our rural Northeast Kingdom. As a longtime supporter of Mobile Medical, I was pleased to see this locally owned business recognized for the great work it has done in Vermont and across the globe.

I continue to be proud of the many small businesses thriving across Vermont. And today I am especially proud of the work of one small business that has succeeded both financially and socially Mobile Medical International Corporation of St. Johnsbury, VT. I wish Rick and his business continued success in the future. I also ask that the May 20, 2011, U.S. Small Business Administration announcement of this award be printed in the RECORD.

The information follows:

VERMONT MANUFACTURER OF MOBILE HEALTH CARE UNITS IS NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

[Friday, May 20, 2011]

WASHINGTON.—When Rick Cochran was working with five employees in his basement in Walden, Vt., his dream was to find a way to provide advanced medical care to underserved areas, and build a company that could deliver it.

Today, the Vermont manufacturer of state-of-the-art mobile healthcare and diagnostic units was named 2011 National Small Business Person of the year by Karen Mills,

Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mills made the announcement during ceremonies at SBA's celebration of National Small Business Week in Washington, D.C.

First runner-up is Deborah Carey, president and founder of the New Glarus Brewing Company, in New Glarus in southwestern Wisconsin. Second runner-up is Leigh Kamstra, owner and chef of Roma's Ristorante in Spearfish, S.D., north of the Black Hills.

"The innovation, inspiration and determination shown by Rick Cochran and his employees have elevated his company, Mobile Medical International, to a level that is above and beyond the norm," said Mills. "These are the qualities that make small businesses such a powerful force for job creation in the American economy and in their local communities. Rick had a dream and he persisted—creating jobs, winning the loyalty of his team, and filling a need in the marketplace that has taken Mobile Medical from his basement to a worldwide stage. We are especially proud that when Rick Cochran's company needed financing, he turned to the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the SBA was able to help him."

"I applaud Rick and his team, and I applaud the runners-up and their staffs, and all of the state small business persons of the year who are here today," Mills said. "We are all grateful for their contributions to our economy. They are magnificent examples of the character of America's most successful entrepreneurs."

The National Small Business Person of the Year and runners-up were selected from among the state winners in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and Guam. All are being honored this week in Washington, D.C., as part of National Small Business Week. The awards were announced at today's National Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Sam's Club at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

For Cochran the road began when he left a job at an advanced medical equipment provider to establish his first venture, Outpatient Services of America, a consulting firm specializing in planning and developing ambulatory surgery centers. His plan evolved in 1994, when he researched and created an initial design for a mobile surgery unit and established Mobile Medical International, working from his basement with a staff of five. By 1995, he had the capital, and by 1996, he had his prototype.

At first, he provided temporary solutions for hospitals undergoing renovations, but he was able to expand the business into broader commercial, military, and emergency response applications worldwide. During one rough patch in 1999, much of his core team—inspired by Cochran's perseverance, optimism and faith—worked without pay when financing ran dry and the company nearly closed its doors. They were reimbursed later, when the company rebounded. The company also secured financing support from three SBA-backed loans in 1997, 2005 and 2008.

MMI's products include mobile surgical hospitals built into a semi-sized tractor-trailer and an inflatable hospital ward that fits into a trailer pulled by a Humvee. To date, MMI has 22 mobile healthcare units in its product line, including Mobile Breast Care Centers, Mobile Intensive Care, Mobile Laboratory/Pharmacy, Mobile CT Scan/Dental/Ophthalmology, Mobile Ophthalmology and Mobile Endoscopy Units.

Today, MMI's staff has grown to 54, and net income—just \$9,835 in 2008—rose in 2010 to \$1.68 million on gross revenues of more than \$14 million.

First runner-up Carey developed her business plan for the New Glarus Brewing Com-

pany while her husband Dan, a master brewer, gathered the materials, grains and equipment needed for start-up. In 1993 they negotiated to lease a warehouse in New Glarus, exchanging the lease for stock in the company. They sold their home and raised \$40,000 in seed money, yet still needed more cash to fund the startup. Carey pitched her story to local newspapers, and the media attention brought in \$200,000 from investors.

In the early days, the couple worked hard to establish the brewery's reputation for consistent quality beers. Carey based her plan on developing a very loyal customer base. She set up beer tasting classes along with offering brewery tours, and the brewery started to take off, attracting notice from distributors. New Glarus Brewing Company has grown to 50 full-time employees, has registered growth in profits of 123 percent from 2007 to 2009, and is Wisconsin's number one micro-brewery relative to sales volume.

Kamstra, the second runner-up, had been eyeing an old, dilapidated stone building that had stood empty while she was a college student attending Black Hills State University. She didn't know exactly at the time how or why, but she knew somehow her future would be in that building.

After earning a degree in business and 10 years in banking, Kamstra changed course and earned a degree in culinary arts at the Colorado Institute of art. In 1999, with the help of an SBA-guaranteed loan, Kamstra leased the old dilapidated building, refurbished it and opened Roma's Ristorante. When the old building proved too small, Kamstra adapted, securing another SBA-backed loan in 2010 to finance construction of a new building, with more space. Since then, sales have nearly doubled and staff has increased from 11 to 35.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GRACE S. MATTERN

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I recognize and congratulate Grace S. Mattern for her 30 years of service on behalf of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Since its inception, the coalition has become a leader in the struggle for victims', women's, and children's rights. Over the past quarter century, Grace has shaped the way domestic violence and sexual assault is understood and responded to in New Hampshire. Under Grace's leadership, the coalition has developed a nationally recognized model for protocols, state law, and health care initiatives. On the local level, there has been no victim-centered legislation in which Grace has not played a major part.

One of Grace's strongest attributes is her ability to work with people and facilitate meetings in a productive way. She has worked tirelessly to encourage everyone to work together to strengthen efforts to end domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Her work includes participation in many boards and commissions both nationally and locally.

Grace has been involved in various projects that involve groundbreaking work not only for New Hampshire but also for the country. Because of her leadership in 1997, the coalition, in conjunction with the State, was selected

by the Family Violence Prevention Fund to establish a partnership to improve the health care system's response to domestic violence, called the National Health Initiative. New Hampshire was one of only 10 States in the Nation to participate in this program and the only State in New England. To this day, Grace continues to work with the medical community to educate physicians on the impact of trauma from domestic and sexual violence.

In 1999, the coalition successfully applied to be one of six sites in the country selected for what is known as the Greenbook Project. Grafton County was selected and funded as a national demonstration site for improving collaboration between domestic violence organizations, courts, and child protective services in families where there is a co-occurrence of domestic violence, child abuse, and neglect. New Hampshire was the only site selected in the eastern United States. This project has led to more collaborative efforts not only in Grafton County but across New Hampshire.

Grace was highly involved in the creation of one of the first AmeriCorps programs in the State. Named the AmeriCorps Victim Assistance Program, it was a "first in the Nation" model that she started with representatives from the New Hampshire Department of Justice and the State's court system, and is now in its 11th year. The program recruits and trains members to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking at crisis centers, police departments, prosecutors' offices, the New Hampshire Department of Justice, and on college and university campuses throughout the State.

As Grace retires, I commend her efforts and congratulate her for all of the accomplishments of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her 30 years of service on behalf of the people of New Hampshire.●

MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL CHESS TEAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mendota High School chess team on winning the 2011 CalChess Premier Division State Championship in Santa Clara this April. The Mendota High School chess team worked tirelessly to become State champions and a source of great joy and pride to the people of Mendota and Fresno County.

Mendota High School chess team coach, Vanness French, has been working with most of the members of the championship chess team since they were in the third grade. It was Coach French who gave the team its unique nickname, Knucklehead, a reference to the long-lasting cylinders on vintage Harley-Davidson motorcycles. The 2011 Mendota chess team certainly lived up to their expectations, never giving up

as they defeated several higher rated opponents en route to claiming the State title.

The members of the 2011 Mendota High School CalChess Premier Division State Championship include: Eduardo Alonso, Edwin Brioso, Joel Montalvo, Chrispen Reyes, Milton Arroyo, Luis Castillo, Julian Estrada, Lizzy Gonzales, Charle Ledesua, Sergio Mayares, Kevin Romero, Jessi Mendez, and Felipe Beltran.

It is with great pride that I congratulate these students on an extraordinary accomplishment, and the hard work, dedication, and perseverance they showed in achieving it.

As the Mendota chess team celebrates the 2011 CalChess Premier Division State Championship, I commend them a remarkable and memorable year and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. JOHN BEARDEN WILLIAMS

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge two very special people who have reached a significant milestone in their lives, Mr. and Mrs. John Bearden Williams. This week, Mr. Williams and his bride, Gretchen Schilde Williams, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

John and Gretchen's marriage has been very blessed. They were married on June 6, 1971, in Baton Rouge, LA, at the First Baptist Church. Throughout their marriage they have maintained a strong partnership, working together in ministry and giving of themselves to their church and community.

They have been longtime supporters of the Louisiana School for the Deaf, and Mr. Williams and his children were all featured in the Louisiana Bar Journal for their many years of service to the Baton Rouge legal community. During Mr. Williams' more than 40 years of legal practice, Mrs. Williams was a constant and committed advocate, organizer, and friend. Their unbreakable alliance has served to encourage, uplift, and bring out the best in one another, and the longevity of their union shows their deep and abiding love and commitment to each other, growing stronger throughout their journey. They have raised three children, Stephen Schilde, John Richard, and Cynthia Williams Dashiell, and are now the proud grandparents of five grandchildren—Haley, Jack, Mary Gretchen, Martin, and Scott.

I am pleased to recognize and honor John Williams and Gretchen Williams as they celebrate 50 years of marriage, and I hope their family continues to be blessed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1903. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Agency Office of the Inspector General" ((RIN0750-AG97) (DFARS Case 2011-D006)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1904. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a proposed change to the Fiscal Year 2009 National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) procurement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1905. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the training of the U.S. Special Operations Forces with friendly foreign forces during fiscal year 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1906. A communication from the Deputy to the Chairman, Legal Office, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Securities of Nonmember Insured Banks" (RIN3064-AD67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1907. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Luxembourg; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1908. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1909. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1910. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1911. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program for Certain Consumer Appliances: Test Procedures for Battery Chargers